

In re Application of KROMANN et al.  
Serial No. 10/804,769

### REMARKS

The Office action has been carefully considered. The Office action indicated that claims 28-30 were allowed, and that claims 6-9, 11, 12 and 16-24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By present amendment, without addressing the merits of any of the rejections, applicants have herein amended the claims such that all of the remaining independent claims contain subject matter indicated as being allowable. Applicants also have amended certain claims to correct errors of a typographical type of nature or for antecedent purposes or clarity, and not in view of the prior art. Further, applicants have canceled certain claims to expedite allowance, or because certain claims were redundant and/or inconsistent in view of other amendment(s). Applicants submit that all of the amendments herein are for the purposes of clarifying the claims and/or for expediting allowance, not for reasons related to patentability, and not in view of the prior art.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of otherwise allowable claim 12 (claim 12 was canceled as redundant), and thus claim 1 is allowable. The subject matter of new claim 31 corresponds to otherwise allowable claim 6 (and intervening claim 2), and thus is allowable. The subject matter of new claim 32 corresponds to otherwise allowable claim 7 (there was no intervening claim), and thus is allowable.

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The subject matter of new claim 33 corresponds to otherwise allowable claim 11 (and intervening claim 10), and thus is allowable.

Claim 14 has been amended to include the limitations of otherwise allowable claim 16 (claim 16 was canceled as redundant), and thus claim 14 is allowable. The subject matter of new claim 34 corresponds to otherwise allowable claim 23 (there was no intervening claim), and thus is allowable.

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### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims (1-11, 14, 15, 17-26 and 28-34) contain subject matter indicated by the Office action as being patentable over the prior art of record, and that the application is in good and proper form for allowance. A favorable action on the part of the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

If in the opinion of the Examiner a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (425) 836-3030.

Respectfully submitted,



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**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this Amendment, along with transmittal, facsimile cover sheet, and credit card payment form are being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.6(d) on the date shown below:

Date: June 21, 2006

  
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Albert S. Michalik

*4250 second amendment*